

IMPERIAL RESCRIPT

WE, by grace of heaven, Emperor of Japan, seated on the Throne of the line unbroken for ages eternal, enjoin upon ye, Our loyal and brave subjects:

We hereby declare war on the United States of America and the British Empire. The men and officers of Our army and navy shall do their utmost in prosecuting the war, Our public servants of various departments shall perform faithfully and diligently their appointed tasks, and all other subjects of Ours shall pursue their respective duties; the entire nation with a united will shall mobilize their total strength so that nothing will miscarry in the attainment of our war aims.

To insure the stability of East Asia and to contribute to world peace is the far-sighted policy which was formulated by Our Great Illustrious Imperial Grandsire and Our Great Imperial Sire succeeding Him, and which We lay constantly to heart. To cultivate friendship among nations and to enjoy prosperity in common with all nations has always been the guiding principle of Our Empire's foreign policy. It has been truly unavoidable and far from Our wishes that Our Empire has now been brought to cross swords with America and Britain. More than four years have passed since the government of the Chinese Republic, failing to comprehend the true intentions of Our Empire, and recklessly courting trouble, disturbed the peace of East Asia and compelled Our Empire to take up arms. Although there has been re-established the National Government of China, with which Japan has effected neighbourly intercourse and co-operation, the regime which has survived at Chungking, relying upon American and British protection, still continues its fractricidal opposition. Eager for the realization of their inordinate ambition to dominate the Orient, both America and Britain, giving support to the remaining /T.N. Chungking/ regime, have, under the false name of peace, aggravated the disturbances in East Asia. Moreover, these two Powers, inducing other countries to follow suit, increased military preparations on all sides of Our Empire to challenge us. They have obstructed by every means our peaceful commerce, and finally resorted to a direct severance of economic relations, menacing gravely the existence of Our Empire.

Patiently have We waited and long have We endured, in the hope that Our Government might retrieve the situation in peace. But our adversaries, showing not the least spirit of conciliation, have unduly delayed a settlement; and in the meantime, they have intensified the economic and military pressure to compel thereby Our Empire to

submission. This trend of affairs would, if left unchecked, not only nullify Our Empire's efforts of many years for the sake of the stabilization of East Asia, but also endanger the very existence of Our nation. The situation being such as it is, Our Empire for its existence and self-defence has no other recourse but to appeal to arms and to crush every obstacle in its path.

The hallowed spirits of Our Imperial Ancestors guarding Us from above, We rely upon the loyalty and courage of Our subjects in Our confident expectation that the task bequeathed by Our Forefathers will be carried forward, and that the sources of evil will be speedily eradicated and an enduring peace irrevocably established in East Asia, preserving thereby the glory of Our Empire.

The 8th day of the 12th month of the 16th year of Showa.

HIROHITO
(Imperial Sign Manual. Imperial Seal)

December 8th, SHOWA 16, /1941/

Hideki TOJO, Prime Minister, and Concurrently Minister
of Home Affairs and War Minister

Kunihiko HASHIDA, Minister of Education

Teiichi SUZUKI, Minister without Portfolio

Hiroya INO, Minister of Agriculture and Forestry and
Concurrently Minister of Overseas Affairs

Chikahiko KOIZUMI, Minister of Welfare

Michiyo IWAMURA, Minister of Justice

Shigetaro SHIMADA, Minister of the Navy

Shigenori TOGO, Minister of Foreign Affairs

Ken TERASHIMA, Minister of Communications

Okinori KAYA, Minister of Finance

Nobusuke KISHI, Minister of Commerce and Industry

Yoshiaki HATTA, Minister of Railways

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詔書

天佑ヲ保有シ萬世一系、皇祚ヲ踐メル
大日本帝國天皇ハ昭ニ忠誠勇武ナル汝有
衆ニ示ス
朕茲ニ米國及英國ニ對シテ戰ヲ宣ス朕カ陸
海將兵ハ全力ヲ奮テ交戰ニ從事シ朕カ百
僚有司ハ勵精職務ヲ奉行シ朕カ眾庶ハ各
其ノ本分ヲ盡シ億兆一心國家、總力ヲ擧ゲテ
征戰、目的ヲ達成スルニ遺算ナカラムコト
ヲ期セヨ
抑、東亞、安定ヲ確保シ以テ世界、平和ニ

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No. 3

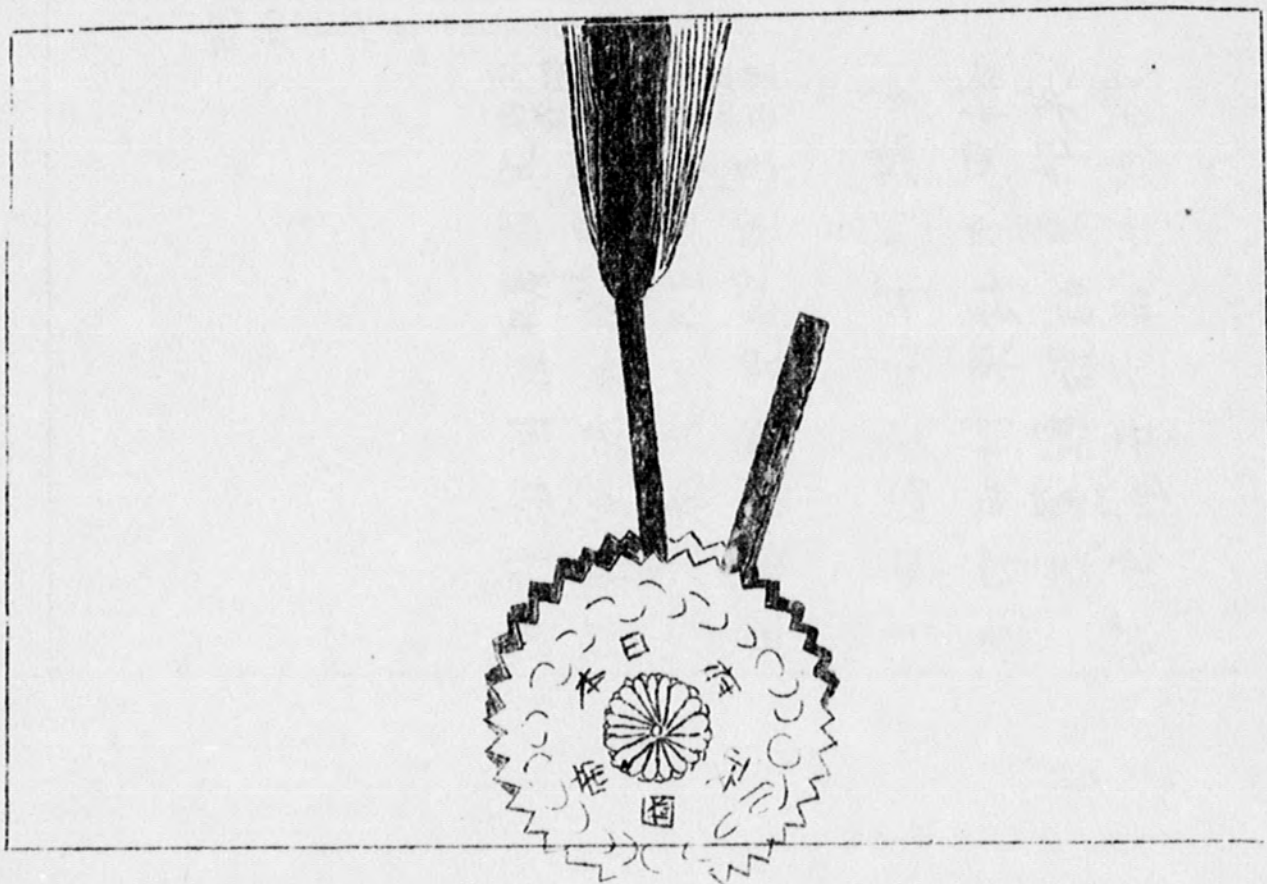
寄與スルハ至顯ナル皇祖考玉承ナル皇考、
作述セル遠猷ニシテ朕カ拳々措カサル所而
ニテ列國ト、交誼ヲ結ビシ萬邦共榮ノ
樂ヲ偕ニスルハ之亦帝國カ常ニ國交、要
義ト爲ス所ナリ今ヤ不幸ニシテ米英兩
國ト齟齬端ヲ開クニ至ル洵ニ已ムヲ得サルモ、
アリ豈朕カ志ナラムヤ中華民國政府曩ニ
帝國ノ真意ヲ解セズ濫ニ事ヲ構ヘテ東
亞ノ平和ヲ攪亂シ遂ニ帝國ヲシテ干戈ヲ執
ルニ至ラシメ茲ニ四年有餘ヲ經タリ幸ニ國

民政府更新スルアリ帝國ハ之ト善隣、誼ヲ結ヒ相提攜スルニ至レルモ重慶ニ殘存スル政權ハ米英、庇蔭ヲ恃ミテ兄弟尚未タ牆ニ相閱クヲ悛マス米英兩國ハ殘存政權ヲ支援シテ東亞、禍亂ヲ助長シ平和ノ美名ニ匿シテ東洋制覇、非望ヲ逞ウセムトス刺ハ與國ヲ誘ヒ帝國、周邊ニ於テ武備ヲ增強シテ我ニ挑戰シ更ニ帝國、平和的通商ニ有ラユル妨害ヲ與ヘ遂ニ經濟斷交ヲ敢テシ帝國、生存ニ重大ナル脅威ヲ加フ朕ハ政府ヲシテ事態ヲ平和ノ

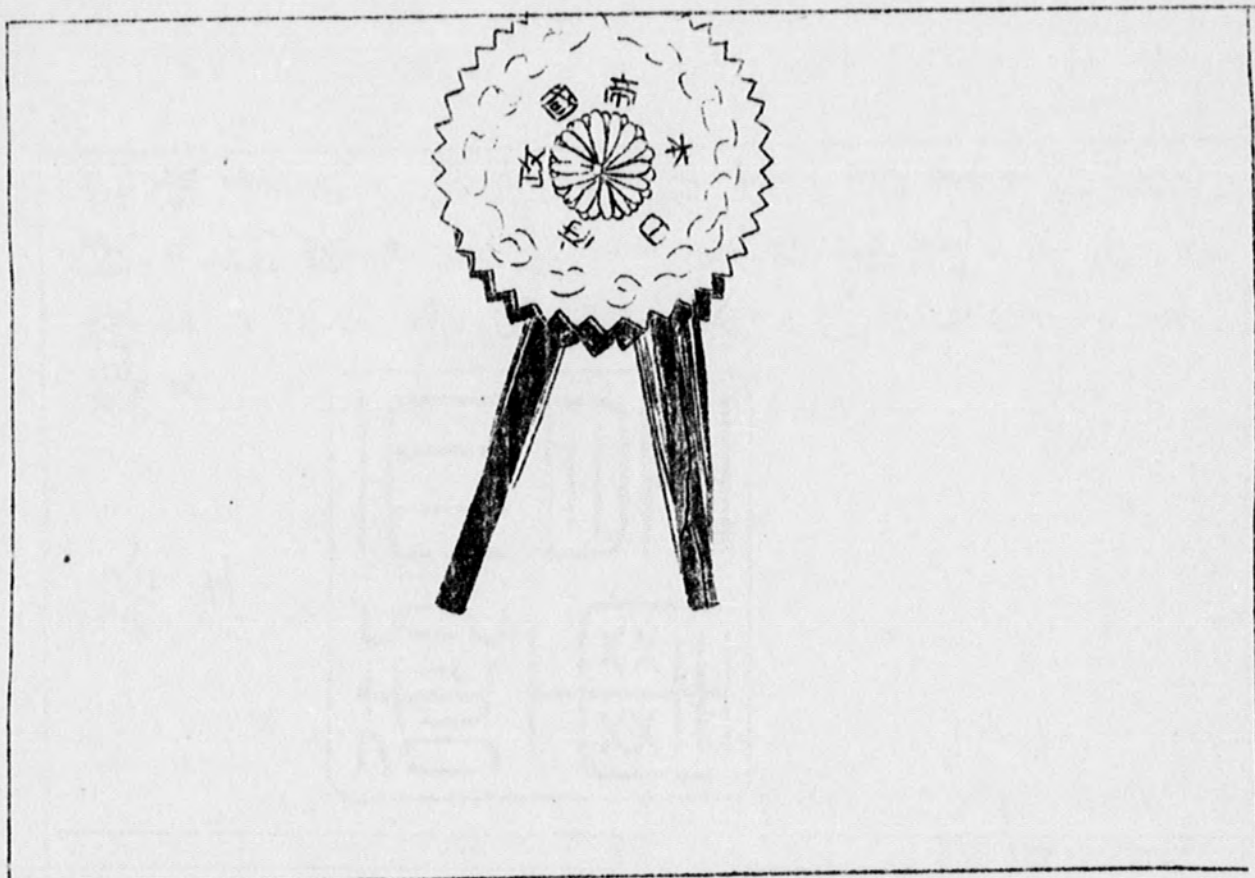
裡ニ回復セシメムトシ隱忍久シキニ彌リタルモ彼ハ毫モ交譲、精神ナク徒ニ時局、解決ヲ遷延セシメテ此、問却ツテ益、經濟上軍事上、脅威ヲ増大シ以テ我ヲ屈從セシムトス斯、如クニシテ推移セムカ東亞安定ニ關スル帝國積年、努力ハ悉ク水泡ニ歸シ帝國、存立亦正ニ危殆ニ瀕セリ事既ニ此ニ至ル帝國ハ今ヤ自存自衛、爲蹶然起ツテ一切、障礙ヲ破碎スル、外ナキナリ
皇祖皇宗、神靈上ニ在リ朕ハ汝有眾、

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封印圖



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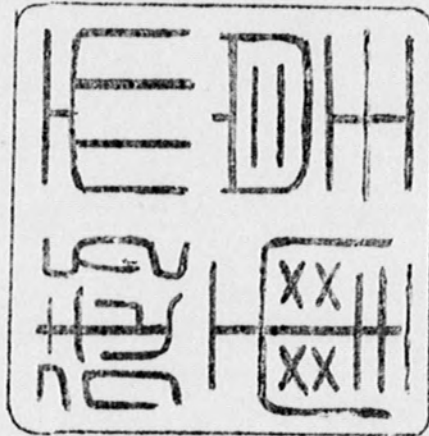


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忠誠勇武ニ信倚シ祖宗ノ遺業ヲ恢弘シ
速ニ禍根ヲ芟除シテ東亞永遠ノ平和ヲ
期立シ以テ帝國ノ光榮ヲ保全セムコトヲ
ス

裕仁



昭和十六年十二月八日

昭和十六年十二月八日

内閣總理大臣兼
文部大臣陸軍大臣
國務大臣
農林大臣兼
厚生大臣
司法大臣
海軍大臣
外務大臣
逓信大臣

東條英機
橋田邦彦
鈴木貞一
小井野碩哉
泉親彦
岩村通玄
嶋田繁太郎
東郷茂徳
寺島健

No. 7

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大藏大臣	賀屋興宣
商工大臣	岸 信介
鐵道大臣	八田嘉明

Doc. 2362 Cert.

證明書

國際檢察部 中二三六二號

典據及び公正に關スル證明

余佐藤朝生、余が下記資格於テ、即チ内閣事務官トシテ、日本政府ト公的関係存モナレト、此ニ該官吏トシテ余が茲ニ添附セラルル拾貳年、成ル、千九百四拾壹年、昭和拾六年、拾貳月、拾日、下記署名、即チ證書用戰前（元證書）、文書、保管ニ任シ居ルコトヲ茲ニ證明ス。余更ニ添附記録及ビ印章が日本政府、公文書ナルコト、此ニ在下記名稱、省又郎局、公式書類及ビ綴、即チ此コトヲ證明ス（若シラハ綴番号又引用、其他公式書類又綴、於ケル該文書、正現所在、公式名稱ヲモ特記ス（三）

一 内閣

千九百四十六年、昭和貳拾壹年、拾月貳拾五日

東京ニ於テ署名

當該官吏署名欄

右、若、公的資格

證人

佐藤 朝生

内閣事務課長

村井 七郎

佐藤

公式入會ニ關スル證明

余、RICHARD H. LARSH、余が聯合國最高指揮官總司令部關係ナルモノナルコト、此ニ下記署名、文書、余が職務上日本政府、上記署名官モリ入會ニタレモノナルコトヲ茲ニ證明ス。

千九百四拾六年、昭和貳拾壹年、拾月貳拾日

東京ニ於テ署名

右、若、公的資格

證人

Richard H. Larsh
國際檢察部調査官
ライオン・ニール・プラット